

# Selendang Ayu Oil Spill Natural Resource Trustees



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## Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Update August 2006

Following the *Selendang Ayu* oil spill, federal and state natural resource agencies began actively investigating potential natural resource injuries caused by the spill. The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 directs natural resource trustees to ensure that public resources and services injured by an oil spill are restored.

In this case, the natural resource trustees include the Department of Interior, the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration and the Alaska Departments of Fish & Game, Natural Resources, Environmental Conservation, and Law. With some cooperation from the responsible parties, the trustees have surveyed resources and services impacted by the *Selendang Ayu* spill to make a preliminary determination of injury.

The trustee agencies are finalizing preliminary assessment reports summarizing the surveys. Those reports address actual and potential injuries to shoreline habitat, aquatic resources, birds, marine mammals, recreational uses, access to cultural resources, and other human services. Once completed, the reports will be made available to the public.

Later this year, the trustees will begin assessing the injuries and planning potential restoration actions to address those injuries. The trustees will inform the community about their next steps via public notices, a web site, and community meeting and will seek public input regarding potential restoration activities.

In the meantime, if you have questions about the natural resource damage assessment process for the *Selendang Ayu* spill, please contact Jenifer Kohout, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 907-786-3687 or [Jenifer\\_Kohout@fws.gov](mailto:Jenifer_Kohout@fws.gov).